

Title SR2. Rules Governing Attendance, Behavior, and Decorum in the Senate

Chapter 1 Attendance

SR2-1-101 Senators shall be present.

A senator shall be present within the Senate chamber during a session of the Senate, unless excused or unavoidably absent.

SR2-1-102 Absent senators.

If a quorum of the Senate is not present at the time the Senate is scheduled to convene, the presiding officer shall direct the sergeant-at-arms to:

- (1) find sufficient absent senators to make a quorum for the transaction of business; and
- (2) escort them to the chamber.

Chapter 2 Decorum

SR2-2-201 President to maintain order.

The president or presiding officer shall maintain order and decorum during sessions of the Senate.

SR2-2-202 Disorderly conduct in Senate.

The president or presiding officer may order the Senate areas or gallery cleared if a disturbance occurs.

SR2-2-203 Smoking not permitted.

- (1) As provided in Utah Code Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, a person may not smoke in a building on capitol hill.
- (2) The sergeant-at-arms shall enforce this rule in the areas controlled by the Senate.

SR2-2-204 Impugning motives of a senator.

- (1) A senator may not impugn the motives of any other senator either on the floor of the Senate or in committee.
- (2) A senator who believes that the motives of any senator has been impugned by another senator may raise a point of order.

SR2-2-205 Movement out of and within the Senate chamber.

- (1) When the president or presiding officer is presenting a question, a senator may not leave the Senate chamber.

- (2) When a senator is speaking, no person may walk between the senator and the president or presiding officer.

Chapter 3 Conflicts of Interest

SR2-3-101 Reporting conflicts of interest.

Immediately preceding or during the roll call, a senator may make a brief statement explaining any conflict of interest.

Chapter 4 General Rules Governing the Senate Floor

SR2-4-101 Admittance to the Senate chamber.

- (1)
- (a) While the Senate is convened in annual general session or special session and except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), only legislators, legislative officers and employees, professional staff, former legislators who are not registered as lobbyists, legal spouses of legislators, interns, and persons invited by senators are allowed in the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge.
 - (b) The president of the Senate may deny access to the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge to any person, other than a legislator, if the person uses that access to influence legislative decisions.
- (2)
- (a) A senator or the senator's intern shall accompany each visitor in the chamber, lounge, or hallways and is responsible for that visitor.
 - (b) After the visit, the senator or the senator's intern shall ensure that the visitor leaves the chamber, lounge, or hallway.

SR2-4-102 Senator's chairs not to be occupied by others.

When the Senate is convened in session, no one other than the president or a senator may occupy the chair or use the desk of the president or any senator.

SR2-4-103 Lobbying prohibited.

Lobbying by non-legislators is not permitted in the Senate chamber.

SR2-4-104 Recognition of visiting groups and individuals.

- (1) The presiding officer may recognize visiting groups and individuals.
- (2) A senator who requests and receives personal privilege may introduce visiting groups or individuals.

SR2-4-105 News media.

- (1)
 - (a) Subject to Subsection (1)(b), news media with Senate press credentials shall be admitted to the Senate chamber, halls, lounge, and committee rooms.
 - (b) In order to be admitted to the Senate chamber, news media shall comply with the dress requirements and other rules of decorum established in the Senate Handbook.
 - (c)
 - (i) News media without Senate press credentials may be admitted to the Senate chamber only when the Senate is not convened in formal session.
 - (ii) News media with Senate press credentials who do not meet the requirements of Subsection (1)(b) may be admitted to the Senate chamber only when the Senate is not convened in formal session.
- (2) With permission, the news media may conduct and record interviews in the Senate lounge, halls, or available committee rooms.
- (3) The news media shall also comply with the other provisions in SR2-4-102 and SR2-4-103.

SR2-4-106 Executive sessions.

- (1) A senator may make a motion to convene the Senate in executive session.
- (2) When a motion for executive session is adopted, the presiding officer shall direct the sergeant-at-arms to close the Senate chamber doors.
- (3) The president may require all persons, except the senators, secretary, reading clerk, docket clerk, and sergeant-at-arms to leave the Senate chamber.
- (4) During the discussion, every person present shall remain within the Senate chamber.
- (5) During and after conclusion of the executive session, each person who was present in the executive session shall keep all matters discussed in executive session confidential.

Chapter 5

Rules Governing Sponsoring Legislation

**SR2-5-101 Senators may request and sponsor legislation -- Substituting a sponsor --
Withdrawing as a cosponsor.**

- (1) A senator may request and sponsor legislation as provided in Joint Rules Title 4, Bills and Resolutions.
- (2)
 - (a) After a piece of legislation has been introduced, the chief Senate sponsor of the legislation may withdraw from sponsoring the legislation by:
 - (i) finding another senator to act as chief sponsor of the legislation; and
 - (ii) filing a substitution of sponsorship form with the secretary of the Senate before final passage of the legislation in the Senate.
 - (b) A senator seeking to withdraw as the chief sponsor need not obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw.
- (3)

- (a) Before final passage of the legislation in the Senate, a senator cosponsor of a bill may withdraw as a cosponsor of that legislation.
- (b) A senator seeking to withdraw as a cosponsor need not:
 - (i) obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw; or
 - (ii) provide a substitute cosponsor for the legislation.